

Drawings

Please amend Figure 1 by adding reference number 54 in the manner indicated on the enclosed copy marked in red.

Please amend Figure 5 by adding reference numeral 55 in the manner indicated on the enclosed copy marked in red.

Please amend Figures 8 by adding reference number 54 in the manner indicated on the enclosed copy marked in red.

Please amend Figure 9 by adding reference numeral 55 in the manner indicated on the enclosed copy marked in red.

REMARKS

Applicant has revoked its previous attorney/agent of record and appointed new attorneys of record. Enclosed is PTO Forms PTO/SB/81 ("Revocation of Power of Attorney or Authorization of Agent") and PTO/SB/81 ("Power of Attorney or Authorization of Agent").

The Examiner has rejected Claims 15 – 21, 23, 25, 27 and 28 of Applicant's application under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

As regards Claim 15, Applicant has re-written the claim to define a combination of the U-beam top joint (reference 54 in amended Figure 1), and the U-beam splay bar (reference 55 in amended Figure 5). It is submitted that this amendment more clearly defines the nature of the combination. The term "angled gripping joint" has been deleted. As well, the term "each side bracket" has been deleted. The term "in conjunction" at line 4 of former Claim 15 does not appear in amended Claim 29. Furthermore, the wording objected to by the Examiner at line 5 have not been included in new Claim 29. For the foregoing reasons the Examiner's objections should be moot and revised Claim 29 should now be in condition for allowance which is respectfully solicited. Applicant notes in particular that the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in former Claims 15 – 21, 23, 25, 27 and 28 provided that the claims are re-written to overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicant has rewritten the claims to overcome this rejection and as well to redefine the claimed invention.

As regards the Examiner's rejection of Claims 21, 23 and 27, those claims have been deleted and have not been re-inserted in the claims now submitted.

Applicant has also amended Figure 1 to insert reference to numeral 54 identifying the U-beam top joint. Reference to the U-beam top joint and numeral 54 can be found at Page 18, line 21 of the original specification. Similarly, Figure 5 has been amended to insert reference to numeral 55 to the U-beam splay bar as described at Page 18, line 22 of the original specification. As well, these numerical references can be found at Figures 10 and 11.

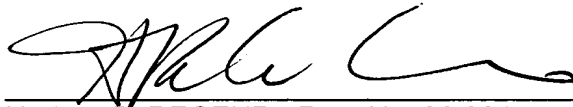
Figures 8 and 9 have likewise been amended to insert numeral 54 pointing to the U-beam top joint and numeral 55 pointing to the U-beam splay bar.

The specification has also been amended as indicated above to provide clarity concerning the U-beam top joint (referred to in the specification as "U-beam top joint with lumber and gripping

means"), and the U-beam splay bar. In addition, further numerical references and figure number corrections have been made. No new matter has been entered in any of these amendments.

Reconsideration of the subject application with a view to allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted



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